

Water System Flushing Program



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Western has a water system flushing program that helps to maintain high-quality water throughout our service area. Flushing operations are required on a regular basis by the California Department of Public Health. During a flushing operation in your neighborhood, you'll see crews flushing via fire hydrants and end of water main blow off pipes.

In order to properly conduct flushing operations, the water flowing in the pipes must reach maximum velocities. These higher than normal velocities will scour the insides of the distribution piping, helping to clean out any bio-films or silt that may be present.

In most cases, it's not possible to capture and reuse the water being flushed due to the high velocity and volume of water being released.

To make sure we're using water wisely during the drought, Western has reduced the number of overall flushing of our pipelines as well as finding opportunities to capture and recycle the water while ensuring that we meet mandated state standards. We use best management practices to ensure that no more water than needed is flushed out of our pipes.

Why Flushing is Important

Bacteria Control

Biofilm growth in drinking water systems can occur when an area becomes stagnant; it can be eliminated through flushing.

Taste & Odor Control

Flushing removes many of the deposits, sediment, and other materials that can affect taste and odor.

Corrosion Control

Flushing introduces higher than normal water velocities that literally scour the inside of water lines and, thus, reduces corrosion.

Fire Hydrant & Valve Exercising

Operating fire hydrants and valves helps to ensure that they'll work properly in an emergency.



When we flush our system in front of your home, we suggest you not use the water in your home as the water quality may be temporarily reduced. After we leave the area, if you haven't used the water during the time we're flushing, your water quality should be unaffected and you may return to normal use

For more information, contact Western at 951.571.7100 or visit wmwd.com

